



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named
Inventor : Li Deng et al.

Appln. No.: 09/688,764

Filed : October 16, 2000

For : METHOD OF NOISE REDUCTION
USING CORRECTION AND SCALING
VECTORS WITH PARTITIONING OF
THE ACOUSTIC SPACE IN THE
DOMAIN OF NOISY SPEECH

Docket No.: M61.12-0325

Group Art Unit: 2655

Examiner: Opsasnick,
M.

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Technology Center 2600

RESPONSE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PAPER IS BEING
SENT BY U.S. MAIL, FIRST CLASS, TO THE
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21st DAY OF January, 2004
Theresa M. [Signature]
PATENT ATTORNEY

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed on
November 5, 2003.

REMARKS

In the Office Action, claims 22 and 23 were allowed,
claims 2-11, 14-21, 27, 28, 30 and 31 were objected to for
depending from a rejected base claim, and claims 1, 12, 13, 24-26
and 29 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated
by Adlersberg et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,012,519, hereinafter
Adlersberg).

Adlersberg provides a noise reduction technique for
reducing noise in a speech signal. Under this technique, a voice
operated switch (VOX) detects portions of the signal that do not
include speech. Using these non-speech sections, Adlersberg
estimates the amplitude of the background noise. During speech
sections, the background noise amplitude is used to estimate a
signal to noise ratio. This ratio is used to identify a gain in
a table that is multiplied by the noisy speech signal to produce